

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SHEPTON MONTAGUE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, SHEPTON MONTAGUE ON MONDAY 12TH JUNE
2017 AT 7.30pm**

(Draft minutes for approval at the next meeting)

Present: Paul Williams (acting chair), Richard Reed, Andrew Wiley, Janet Robinson, Margaret Hill (Clerk).

Also present were Anna Groskop, County Councillor, the Applicant Mr March-Smith, his architect Roger Gallannaugh and one member of the Parish.

1. **Apologies for absence:** were received from Richard Ellis (currently abroad), Tim Russell P.C.S.O. and Mike Beech, District Councillor.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None
3. **Minutes of last meeting:** were signed as a correct record.

4. Matters Arising:

- **BT Payphone:** The clerk had now received a contract from BT for signing and a request for a payment of £1. A cheque was signed and Paul Williams agreed to look over the contract before signing. Once the contract has been returned to BT the Parish Council will have to insure it and notify the relevant authorities that it is no longer in BT ownership. Council thought it would be a good idea to ask residents how they would like the phone box used. Housing a de-fibrillator or book exchange had already been suggested. A further suggestion was for the box to contain a list of people willing to respond to requests for help from neighbours in difficulties e.g. by providing emergency transport.

5. Planning Application: 17/02309/FUL Removal of former agricultural buildings and construction of new dwelling. Restoration of pig pens. Change of use of land from agricultural to residential. Location: Southdown Farm, East Street, Shepton Montague BA9 8JP

Roger Gallannaugh explained the scheme and he and Mr. March-Smith answered members' questions. They then left the meeting.

Council agreed the following comments to be returned to Planning:

Council has no objections to the plans as put forward.

However, we would request that all permitted development rights on the remaining Southdown Farm land which is outside the current proposal, are removed.

We would also highlight the potential drainage issues as this is a particularly low-lying spot.

6. Finance: Request for contribution to costs of improving acoustics in Village Hall.

The clerk explained that the Village Hall Committee is seeking a grant from SSDC towards the cost of improvements to the village hall. These include improving the acoustics as well as sorting out the damp problem and much necessary re-pointing and painting. New carpet has already been laid and some damp-proofing carried out and subsequent essential re-decorating. The

cost of the acoustic improvements will be in the region of £2,000. Council agreed a donation to the work of £200 and a cheque was signed. Members requested a formal written request from the VHC and sight of the quotes for the work to support this contribution. The clerk will arrange for these to be forwarded.

7. **Correspondence:** Tim Russell had sent the crime statistics for May 2017 which the clerk circulated. There were 26 recorded crimes in the Wincanton North neighbourhood and 164 'Service calls'. There were no crimes recorded for Shepton Montague.

8. **a.o.b:** Janet Robinson raised the issue of the ongoing problem with traffic speeding through the village, which has not abated since the lineage and signage improvement work. A way forward would be to try and get the numbers of offending vehicles to pass to the police. Other than this it would seem that only a physical barrier to force drivers to slow down will work. Unfortunately speed bumps are extremely expensive and require street lighting which is not desirable. It was decided to ask Colin Fletcher to visit and look at any other options for traffic calming. **Action:** Clerk to contact Colin Fletcher.

9. Open discussion

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.20 pm.

Chairman _____ Date _____